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Hymns

Of the 46th Annual Syriac Orthodox
Archdiocesan Convention 2009

Hosted by

St. Mary Syriac Orthodox Church - Orange, California - USA

July 23-26, 2009

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Hymns

1th Annual Syriac Orthodox
Diocesan Convention 2009

Hosted by

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July 23-26, 2009

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Liturgies: Hymnals

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Taw neemar toobeh, lhoy Maryam
 Mgazayto d'ethrath bbar moroh.
 Rab tooboh washbeeh dookhronoh
 Wkoul a'meen nawrboun lqouloseh.
 He Maryam emrath : dli netlon toobo
 Koulhein sharbotho : lmanou t'eenono.
 Netel loh toobo dzamenthan
 Dof hode hawbthoy dforoushe.

Veneration of the Mother of God

Let us sing praises to Mary, The destitute treasured by the
 wealth of the Son of her Lord.
 Her honor is great and her commemoration is eminent,
 all nations applaud her glories.
 She herself said: "All generations will call me blessed,"
 for the One I am carrying.
 We venerate her for she invited us to her feast,
 for whom brilliant men are indebted.

ܠܥܢܕ ܕܩܝܡܐ ܡܗܝܡܐ *

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Yawno ṯleetho ṯ'eeno leh, Ineshro a'teek yawmotho.

Ṯ'eeno leh wzomro shoub-ho, bnousrotho habeebotho.

O Bar a'teero dabqeno z'ooro shfar loch d-tethrabeḥ.

O qeethor qole dshateeḡ akh shabro, fkoud lee dezmar lokh

Bkhenoro damzee' rethmeh lakhroube, sbee w-emalel lokh.

By: * + St. Ephraim the Syriac

The Young Dove is carrying the Eagle, the Ancient of Days.

She is carrying Him while singing praise with adorable hymns.

O, the Son of the Rich, Who was pleased to grow in a small nest.

O, whose voice is harp, yet is silent like a child,

command me to sing to you,

with the harp whose rhythm makes the Cherubim tremble, be

pleased of me and I will speak for you.

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Breekhto bneshe wmorath hedro wshoubhoro dabthoulotho
 Bekh tofseenan hwee lan e'dro lwoth brekh yoheb shelotho

Dnanhar shbeelayn blaylay woyeh nshafe l'arme wthouqlotho
 Wnethrouṣ reghlayn bourho dhaye wanqeem lan men Mafllotho

Shal lan rahme emo dkheetho byad ṣlawothekh mqablotho
 Dbeedayk naseq koul tawdeetho dyoyo laqnoume tlotho

O Blessed among women, the lady of glory, and the pride of all virgins.
 you are our refuge, be of help for us, toward your Son,
 who responds to all requests.

That He might clear our trails in the dark nights, and smooth the
 rugged terrain and ease the stumbles.
 To set straight our feet in the path of life, and lift us from our falls.

Ask mercy for us, O wholesome Mother, by your accepted prayers.
 Through you we offer our thanks, worthy of the Holy Trinity.

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Ethbaqeeth wahdan tehr
 Kohno rab men malakh

kmo romeen darghe dkhohno
 wam'alay men nourone

Mo dfothah tar'e d'eet
 Mo dqore lrouho dqoudsh

ftheeheen tar'e dashmayo
 zoyah wnoheth men rawmo

Soybin wothen hatoy
 Nosbeen faghreh daloha

qorbeen howen tayobe lhousoy
 hawbe wahtohe

The Sacred Priesthood

I pondered and was amazed, how high are the ranks of the priest.
 He is higher than angels, and more eminent than the Fiery Hosts.

When he opens the church's doors, the doors of heaven are opened.
 When he invokes the Holy Spirit, He hovers and descends from
 heavenly heights.

Sinners gather and come forth, approach and become repentants.
 They take the Body of our Savior, for the forgiveness of trespasses
 and sins.

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Taw n'ad'ed doukhronayhoun
Dalhaymonoutho sharer

dabohotho qadeeshe
t-houmo dorthodoksia.

Ignatios nourono
W Qourillos neb'o halyo

w Theologhos yamo d-hekhmotho
w lwannis foumo ddahbo

Wad Baselios
W Diyosqoros wa Qleemis
a'm naseeho Seweere

a'm rabo Ghreeghorios
w Philoxinos
Slouth-houn shouro thehwe lan.

The Holy Fathers of the church

Let us commemorate our fathers, saints,
who validated the Creed of Orthodoxy.

Ignatius the Illuminator and

Theologian, the Sea of Wisdom (Gregory Nazianzen).

Cyril the Sweet Fountain and John (Iwanis) Chrysostom.

Baselios with Gregorios the Great.

Dioscorus and Clemis, Philoxenos with Severius, the Glorious.

May their prayers be a stronghold for us.

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Bthar'o deelokh hanono, hanono, noqesh qolo dbo'outhan.
Lo thekhle men soghoudayk, shelo^{tho} dsounqonayhoun
Hanono, shelo^{tho} dsouynqonayhoun

Aloho lokh qorenan, hanono, l'oudrono damheelouthan.
Shm'a tobo qol bo'outhan, wfano brahmayk shelo^{tho}an,
Hanono, wfano brahmayk shelo^{tho}an.

Hoos 'alayn mor hoos 'alayn, hanono, bsougho damrahmonouthokh.
Wbeeshotho das'eeron lan, lo thedkhar lan mrahmono,
Hanono, lo thedkhar lan mrahmono.

Supplications

Our plea knocks on your compassionate door.
Do not deny your worshippers the requests they need.

O God, we call upon You to strengthen our weakness.
O Righteous One, listen to our appeal and respond to our
request by Your clemency.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, by Your abundant leniency.
Do not take into account the sins we committed, O Merciful
One.

فَدَسْ كَ مَنَ اَوْحِي مَلَا قُسْعَا:
 اَسْ وِفَدَسْ مَهْ وِمَهْ سُهْدَا .
 مَحَلَا مَحِي قُمَحَا وَمُهَات اِنَا:
 مَهَات اِيَا كَ مَحَحَفَلَا وَمُهَاتَا .
 كُر مَتَلَا سَتَا : مَمَلَا مَهَمَا حَلَمَلَا
 وَلَا اَحَلَا اُمَي : مَتَلَا مَي اَحَمَ
 وَمُهَمَدَا كَ حَمَحَدَه وَحَلَمَلَا:
 حَبْ حَلَا مَهَلَا مَتَلَا حَمَحَدَا سَرَوَه .

Fthah_h lee mor tar'okh mle rah_hme, akh daftha_ht qoudmath ha_htoyto.
Wqabel men dem'e dyohebno, whab at lee shoubkono dhawbe.
Lokh mayo ha_hye, sheqleth weeth balweeth,
Dlo eb'e thamon, mayo men Abram.
Dashmee' lee bsharbeh d'ateero, kad shel wo mayo breesh
hesreh.

Open Your merciful door for me, my Lord,
as You did to the sinner woman.
Accept my tears I am offering You,
and grant me absolution of my sins.

O drink of life, I took You with me,
that I need not ask there, for a drink from Abram.

I have heard the news of the rich man,
who asked for a drop from the tip of his finger.

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لَحْرٌ وَسَعْدٌ وَأَمَّا حُذْرٌ لَا لَحْرَ لَمِيٍّ:
مَعْنَى مَدِيٍّ أَيْ حَكِّ أَمْرٍ وَمَدِيٍّ أَيْ
قَلْبُهُ رَحِيْبٌ هُوَ حَلِيْمٌ وَأَمَّا وَحْدٌ:
حَرْفٌ مَعْنَى إِنْ أَمَّا مَدَا لَهَا هَذَا مَعْنَى
مَدِيٍّ تَصَدَّقَ سَلَامٌ وَسَعْدٌ وَحَدٌّ مَدِيٍّ:
ثَلَاثٌ وَحَدٌّ أَمْرٌ أَمَّا مَدِيٍّ مَعْنَى مَدِيٍّ
مَعْنَى وَفَعْدٌ أَيْ حَكِّ وَأَمَّا هَذَا أَيْ
حَدٌّ إِنْ مَدِيٍّ هَذَا وَأَمَّا أَمْرٌ أَمْرٌ
فَمِنْ أَمَّا هَذَا وَفَعْدٌ أَمَّا مَدِيٍّ أَمَّا:
رَحِيْبٌ هُوَ هَذَا وَفَعْدٌ أَمَّا مَدِيٍّ مَدِيٍّ
مَدِيٍّ حَرْفٌ مَعْنَى مَدِيٍّ أَيْ حَكِّ:
وَحْدٌ لَهَا حَرْفٌ أَمَّا مَدِيٍّ مَدِيٍّ
مَعْنَى كَمَدٍ مَدَا لَهَا هَذَا مَعْنَى
أَمَّا حَكِّ أَمْرٍ مَدِيٍّ مَدِيٍّ وَفَعْدٌ
مَعْنَى قَلْبُهُ رَحِيْبٌ وَفَعْدٌ أَمَّا
مَعْنَى حَكِّ أَمَّا مَدِيٍّ مَدِيٍّ وَفَعْدٌ

Qorenan lokh, moryo moran, to l'oudronan,
shma' bo'outhan w'abed rahme a'l nafshothan
Moryo moran, moro d'eere wadmalkhe,
shm'a bo'outhan w'abed rahme a'l nafshothan.

Abo wabro wrouho dqoudsho anhar tar'eeth,
bthar'okh neqsheth bhaymonoutho 'neen bahnonokh.
Glee lee aynay dehze hnonokh wawde lashmokh,
dehdeth gawso b-baseemouthokh rahem'alay.
Hablee moran dab'eeth menokh lebo dakhyo,
washro bmada' hekhmath haye men malyouthokh.
Zayno drouho nehwe b'oudron louqbal beesho,
h-thoumayn bashmokh wafrouk hayay men abdon.
Iebokh rehmeth weteeth bothrokh lo thabhethayn,
yameenokh mor tagen 'alay akh dam'od at.
Kouleh sebyon honaw balhoud dehwe deelokh,
lokh soghedno moro tobo wamrahmono.
Menokh nesbeth hnono wrahme dab'eeth menokh,
net'an re'yon akh tagoro men seemothokh.
Sefre dqoushto hablee degre wabhoun eelaf,
'Abdokh no mor wabro damthokh ahon bashmokh.
Faghrokh ekhleth wadmokh eshteeth bokh mor eehe,
sleebokh nehwe shouro laqnoun men nekhyone.
Qreeth basloutho yameenokh mor tagen 'alay,
ro'yo tobo 'ebedayn emro bghaw mar'eethokh.
Shoub-ho lashmokh moro tobo wamrahmono,
te'oul bo'outh akh qourbono qdom rabouthokh.
Shom'a koulo wamqablono daslawotho,
shm'a bo'outhan w'abed rahme a'l nafshothan.

By: St. Jacob of Serugh* +

We call upon You, Lord, our Lord, come to our aid.

Listen to our request and have mercy upon us.

O Lord, our Lord, Lord of angels and heavenly hosts.

Listen to our request and have mercy upon us.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit enlighten my mind,

I faithfully knocked on Your door, answer me compassionately.

Open my eyes to see Your kindness and thank Your name,

for I have taken refuge in Your clemency, have mercy upon me.

Give me, my Lord, and I have asked for a clean heart,

and install in my insight the wisdom of life from Your treasure.

Let the weapon of the spirit come to my aid against the devil.

Seal me in Your name and save my life from perdition.

I loved Your benevolence and followed You, do not let me down.

May Your right hand be upon me as is Your usual.

My whole and only desire, is to be Yours.

I worship You O Lord, Good and merciful.

I acquired from You, kindness and mercy I asked for.

Fill my mind as a merchant from Your treasures.

Give me the books of truth to read and learn.

I am Your servant, my Lord, and the son of Your maid,

revive me in Your name.

I have taken Your body, and I have drunk Your blood, that I may live by You.

May Your cross be my shield against infirmities.

I have prayed that Your right hand be upon me.

O Good Shepherd, consider me a lamb among Your flock.

Glory to Your name, O Compassionate and Merciful,

May my prayer be an offering sacrifice in front of Your
prominence.

O Who listens to all and accepts prayers,
Answer our request and have mercy upon our souls.

יִמְחֹלֵנוּ הַבְּהֵמָה מִבְּעֵלָא

+* **සුභ සම්බුද්ධ**

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مَعًا مَالًا كَذَلِكَ حَبَابًا حَبَابًا وَمِنْهُمْ جَبَابًا وَمِنْهُمْ
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أَهْ حَمْدُهُ ۖ حَتَّىٰ مَدَّ يَدَهُ ۖ وَجَبَّالٌ أُولُوهُ حُصُونٌ ۖ
رُحْمًا يُعَقِّدُهَا ۖ حَتَّىٰ يَضْمَحُهَا ۖ جَبَّارٌ ۖ وَهُوَ قُدُّوسٌ ۖ
مَلِكٌ ۖ مَلِكٌ ۖ مَلِكٌ ۖ مَلِكٌ ۖ مَلِكٌ ۖ أَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفْرًا ۖ
وَلَهُ حُكْمٌ ۖ وَهُوَ حَمِيدٌ ۖ وَهُوَ قُدُّوسٌ ۖ حَمِيدٌ ۖ

Romou toghekh washbeehoo shmekh eeto orthoudouksoyto.

Men haw zabno dmorekh nasbekh beth gawso lan b'omarto.

Halel halel halel halel, halleluiah O, Yeshou

Whouyou reeshekh brawmo w'oomqo akh dfaqed
lashleehoutho.

Kmo yoyehlo l'eeto ghbeeto damtakso bdargeh romeh.
Dbasyom eedo dmor Ignatius zohreen bo hsayo wkohneh.
Halel halel halel halel, Halleluiah, O Yeshou
W'amhoun teghmeh damshamshoneh : Mhalloneh
wamzamroneh.

Taw bshawyoutho bnayeh mhaymneh d'eeto Ortoudouksoyto.
Sabeth nafshkhoun brekneh rmeeseh bdouboreh dsuryoyoutho.
Halel halel halel halel, halleluiah, O Yeshou
Datb'eeoo bkhoun roushmeh dYeshou dshararkhoun
bamsheehouto

Praise to our Syriac Orthodox church

By: Very Rev. Fr. Elias Sha'ya +

Your crown is highly valued, your name is glorified, O Orthodox
Church,

since the time your Master planted you, a haven for us on earth.

Halel halel halel halel halleluiah O, Jesus,
He is your Head in heaven and on earth,
as He commanded the apostles.

The holy church is so much worthy of high ranks,
by laying of hands of St. Ignatius, it prospers with bishops and priests.

Halel halel halel halel halleluiah O, Jesus.
With teams of deacons Singers and chanters.

Let us in concord, faithful children of the Orthodox Church,
adorn ourselves in concordance with Syriac virtues.

Halel halel halel halel halleluiah O, Jesus,
for you have been stamped by Jesus' seal,
Who affirmed you through Christianity.

ܠܚܝܟ ܡܗܝܝܬܟ

ܠܥܢܕ ܠܝܒܠܝܬܝܢܐ ܡܗܠܐ ܡܨܝܪ*+

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Kmo rheemat le'zan suryoyo dmenokh reeho dhayeh nesouk
 Datou sghoulan moronoyo Wmenokh halyouth shoub-han nemtouk
 Aphrem rabo bokhou malel wbokh som madrosheh wsoughyotho
 wYacoub Dasrough bokhou halel mimreh tmeehew wkoul 'enyotho.
 Philoxinos haw naseeho bokh ab'a lan koul yad'otho
 wBar Ebroyo tarko shbeeho bokh akteb lan koul hekhmotho.
 A'toun O bnay suryoyoutho hwawlo sabro dhayeh l'eeto
 Dakbar tekneh bkhoun heeroutho whoubo shafyo whaymonoutho.

Salute to our Syriac Language

By: Mor Gregorius Boulos Behnam* +

How loveable you are, our Syriac language,
from you we breathe the breath of life.
You are our heavenly Vine,
from you we get the sweetness of our glory.
You were spoken by Ephraim the Great,
who used you in his hymnals and supplications.
And Jacob of Serugh gave praise through you,
wonderful poems and anthems.
Philoxenos, the Distinguished
Through you brought forth all knowledge.
And Bar Hebraeus, the Excellent Noble,
used you in writing us his wisdoms.
You, the sons of the Syriacs,
be the living hope of the church.
May you possess freedom of truth, with pure love and faith.

ܬܠܬ ܡܚܢܐ ܕܕܢܝܢܐ

ܕܡܢ ܕܡܠܟܐ ܕܕܢܝܢܐ ܕܕܢܝܢܐ ܕܕܢܝܢܐ *

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Beth sefro Aphremoyo, dyoulfono Oromoyo

Damshatas leh Ireesh koumran, b'oudrono alohoyo.

Youlfone hlayo d-dehlath aloho sbeeseen beh wnob'een.

Wbeh suryoyoutho ghbeeno mreemo loh wafseehon afekh.

Baslouth mor Aphrem malfono dqoushto ngawe wal'olmeen.

Nedkhar lbeth sefro qadmo, d'Ourhoy kalath Beth Nahreen.

Walhaw shemsho dsouryoye, mor Aphrem drebou shoufreen.

Wanthane bdayro dBar Aftounia, haw dBeth Qenneshreen.

Dmenoh smah whabeb naheere shbeehe of yadou'thone.

Seweere Saboukht, wmor Yaqoub d'Ourhoy haw rohem 'amlo.

Mor Sewerios rabo, w Filoxinos tbeebo.

Wmor Yaqoun kenor rouho, wmor Touma Hargeloyo

Mor Fawle d Tello w-eewannis D-daro, wMoushe Bar Keefo.

Whaw Bar Sabouni of Bar Salibi, w Mikhoyel rabo.

Wmor Bar Ebroyo, sneeghre nehoun lan walkhouloh eeto.

Bnayo deeloun hnan eethayn, nerde mekil b'ekboth-houn.

W'al nawlo dyoulfonayhoun, nezqour wn'ebed akhwoth-houn.

Bdehleth Aloho wshoufro d-doubore, wathreesouth shoubho.

Byoulfone ghbayo d-doughmata treeese, of alohoye.

Wabyad slawoth-houn neshfar lAloho, wneshtwe lamnoth-houn.

Salute to St. Ephrem Clergy School

By: His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Ephraim 1st, Barsoum*+

The seminary of St, Ephrem, of the Aramean education.
Founded by the supreme head, with the help of God.

Fine teachings of the fear of God spring forth from it,
And the Syriac church, lifts her head up, with happy face.
By the prayers of St. Ephrem, Teacher of the truth,
we shall stand forever.

Let us remember the first school of Edessa, the bride of
Beth-Nahreen.

And the sun of the Syriac, St. Ephrem the Illustrious.
And back to Bar Aphtonia monastery, which is Beth
Qenneshreen,
from which shone stars and knowledgeable: Severius
Saboukht and St. Jacob of Edessa who loved to labor.
St. Severius the Great and Philoxenos the Famous.
St. Jacob the Harp of the Holy Spirit, and St. Thomas
Heraclea.

St. Paul of Telle, Iwanis of Dara, and Moses Bar Keefo,
And Bar Saboony, Bar Salibi, and Michael the Great.
And Bar Hebraeus, may they be light for us and for the
whole church.

We are their children; let us walk in their paths.

Let us implement all their teachings.

With the fear of God and good qualities,

With the chosen teachings of the holy doctrine.

By their prayers, we will be God's favored and worthy of
their portion.

Unity

ما أحسنَ الإخوانَ إذْ يَجْتَمِعُونَ في وِدادٍ
ما أحلى أوقاتاً لهمْ يَقْضُونَهَا في الإِتِّحادِ
بِحُبِّهِمْ وَجَمَعِهِمْ لَهُمْ سَلامٌ وَهَناءٌ
يُمَثِّلُونَ هَكَذَا اجْتِماعَ سَكانِ السَّماءِ
لنا يسوعُ رأسُنا وَنَحْنُ أَعْضاءُ الجَسَدِ
فلا خِلافَ بَيْنَنا يَكُونُ لا ولا حَسَدِ
يَجْمَعُنا الحُبُّ معاً ثُمَّ نَكُونُ بِالوِفاقِ
بِوَحْدَةٍ كإِخْوَةٍ بِالقُرْبِ أو عِندَ الفِراقِ

yajtame'ouna fee widad
yaqdounanah fil ittihad

Ma ahsan al ekhwana ith Ma
ahla awqatan lahom

lahom salamon wahan'a
ijtim'a sukkani ssama

Behoubihem wajam'ihem
Youmatheelouna hakatha

wanahnou a'daou l-jasad
yakounou la wala hasad

Lana Yasou r'asuna
Fala khilafa baynana

thumma nakouno bilwifaq
bilqurbi aw inda l-fouraq

Yajma'ouna l-houbbou ma'an
Biwahdaten ka'eeekhwaten

How great is when brethren gather in love.
How great the times they spend in unity.

Their lovely assembly brings them peace and tranquility,
representing the assembly of the dwellers of heaven.

Jesus is our head and we are members of His body.
Neither dispute nor envy shall ever exist among us.

Love unites us and we are in harmony.
near or far, we stay united as brothers.



* **St. Ephrem the Syriac:** “The Harp of the Holy Spirit”, “the Sun of the Syriac people”, “the Teacher of truth”. He was a deacon. Born in 306 AD in Nisibis (Nsibin, today’s Nusaybin) and grew up under the leadership of St. Jacob, the first bishop of Nisibis who appointed him as a teacher (Malphono), a title that carried great respect. St. Ephrem is popularly credited as the founder of the School of Nisibis which in later centuries became the center of learning of the church. When the city was overrun by Shapur of Persia in 359 AD St. Ephraim went first to Amida (Diyarbakir), and eventually settled in Edessa in 363 AD. He continued his work as a teacher in the School of Edessa which had always been at the heart of the Syriac-speaking world. St. Ephrem wrote a great number of hymns defending the Nicene orthodoxy. His productivity is not in doubt. Hundreds hymns composed by St. Ephrem still exist, but many have been lost. The church historians credit him with having written over three million lines. These hymns are full of rich, poetic imagery drawn from biblical sources. He established all-women choir. His hymns were particularly influential against the heresies of Bardaisan, Arius, Mani, and Marcion. He wrote biblical commentaries on the Diatessaron, Genesis, Exodus, Acts of the Apostles, and St. Paul’s epistles. He wrote exclusively in Syriac language and our churches use many of his hymns as part of the annual cycle of worship. After a ten year residency in Edessa, St. Ephrem succumbed to the plague as he was

ministering to its victims and passed away in June 373 AD. May his prayers be a stronghold for us.

* **St. Jacob of Serugh:** “The flute of the Holy Spirit” Born in 451 AD in the village of Kurtam on the Euphrates. He was educated in the famous school of Edessa. Elected as bishop of Serugh in 519 AD. He was a great poet and writer, second only to St. Ephraim the Syriac. His literary activity was unceasing. He wrote expositions, letters, and hymns of different sorts. Like St. Ephraim, St. Jacob of Serugh’s hymns are chanted as part of our annual cycle of service. He passed away in 521 AD. May his prayers be a stronghold for us.

* **The late Very Rev. Father Elias Sha’ya:** Born in the village of Bartilleh in 1895. Ordained as a priest in 1928 by his holiness Mor Ignatius Elias III for St. Mary church in Senjar-Iraq, then transferred to St. Shmouni church in Bartilleh. Fr. Elias was in charge of St. Mathew monastery twice, donated his house to the monastery and his agricultural land to St. Shmouni church. Ordained as an Archpriest (Khouroyo) in 1945. He departed in 1970. Fr. Elias was well educated in the Syriac language. He translated the book “Genevieve” into Syriac and wrote about the wars of the Persian king Tahmast Khan. His collection of hymns and poems published in 1962. His nephew is his eminence Mor Severius Ishak Saka. May his prayers be a stronghold for us.

* **The late Mor Gregorios Boulos Behnam:** Born in the village of Karakosh – Mosul, Iraq in 1916. He was 13 years old (1929) when he joined St. Mathew monastery school, until 1934, he studied Syriac, Arabic, and English. He was fond of the early fathers of the church like St. Ephrem the Syriac, St. Jacob of Serouj, St. Severius the Great, St. Philoxinus of Maboug, Bar Hebraeus and others. Ordained a monk in 1935 by Mor Dionysius Youhanna VI the bishop of St. Mathew monastery. Continued his education in 1938 in St. Ephrem clergy school in Zahleh-Lebanon where he wrote his first book “Spiritual guide” ܡܕܢܚܐ. In 1945 he headed St. Ephrem clergy school which was moved to Mosul. He was ordained the bishop of Mosul in 1952 by his holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Ephrem I, Barsoum, then bishop to Baghdad & Basrah. He departed in 1969 in Baghdad-Iraq.

He was the best speaker of his time. Richly informed, a great lecturer and preacher. He established Almashrek magazine. His writings: The principle of faith. Historic linguistic investigations. The fundamental relationship between Syriac and Arabic languages. The Orthodoxy of St. Jacob of Serugh. Biography of St. Ignatius Ephrem I Barsoum. Theodora play and “to die for faith” (about St. Shmouni and her seven children). And many other books. May his prayers be a stronghold for us.

* **St. Ignatius Ephrem 1, Barsoum:** Born in the city of Mosul, Iraq on June 15, 1887. Studied Arabic, French and Turkish. He joined Al-Zaafaran Monastery in 1905 where

he studied Syriac and Turkish. He was ordained a monk priest and studied Latin and philosophy in Jerusalem. In 1913 he visited Egypt, Paris, London (Oxford & Cambridge), Rome, and Florence where he benefited so much. In 1918 he was ordained the bishop of Syria and later Lebanon was added. Delegated by St. Ignatius Elias III, may the Holy Trinity bless his soul, to Paris where he was warmly welcomed by the officials in France and England. He was a great orator. He established many schools and churches. He travelled again in 1927 to Geneva, United States, and Canada where he lectured about the origin of the Syriac language at the university of Providence and Chicago. He was elected the patriarch in January 30, 1933. He ordained fourteen bishops. He legislated many regulations for the benefit of the church. He established St. Ephrem clergy school in 1939. He established the patriarchal magazine, and translated liturgies to Arabic. He wrote Altuhfah Al-rouhiah, book of Chatechism, Nuzhat Al-Azhan, Aldurar al-nafeesah, al-mawred al-azb, Al-Iloulou al-manthour, and many others. He departed on 23 of June 1957. May his prayers be a stronghold for us.



